

ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

6118 CRAWFORDSVILLE RD
SPEEDWAY, INDIANA
(317) 243-6684

Guided by the Spirit, we share the love of Jesus
and walk with our community.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, August 16, 2020

In today's Gospel lesson Jesus is teaching the disciples the difference between the words that we speak versus the things that we eat. There was a law back in Biblical times you could not eat with "defiled" hands. This is not too far from where we are today with the mandate to wash our hands often and use hand sanitizer, etc.

When we say mean, hurtful, angry words (and I would add when we text or email them) it is like pounding a nail into a wooden fence post. You cannot change what has been said, you can certainly seek forgiveness and apologize. But even though you can take the nail out of the post, the hole is still there.

God calls us to use words to build up one another and to encourage. We must watch what we say, as my mother taught, and to use words to uplift, help, assist, bring comfort and help another.

Pr. Doug



Introduction

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

Prelude

One Bread, One Body

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bles-sing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

Refrain

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin. **Silence is kept for reflection.**

Reconciling God, **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ✠ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

1 Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

6 And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

7 these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

8 Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Psalm: Psalm 67

Let all the peoples praise you, O God. (Ps. 67:3)

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.
- 2 Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.
- 7 May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

[Paul writes:] 1 I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. 2a God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. 30 Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, 31 so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. 32 For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Gospel: Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

[10 [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: 11 it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." 12 Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" 13 He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. 14 Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." 15 But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." 16 Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? 17 Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? 18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. 19 For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. 20 These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

21 Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22 Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." 23 But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." 24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord,

help me.” 26He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” 27She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” 28Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.



Sermon

Words Matter

Signs, Signs, everywhere there’s signs was a hit song in the 1970’s by the Five Man Electrical Band. The song talked about signs and how much power they had then and still have over us today. I mean who among us hasn’t seen on Social Media “The Sign Guy?” This guy stands on a street with sunglasses and holds up a cardboard sign with different messages.

I am fascinated by words, aren’t you? They have so, so much power, our words. I am sure you all know the power of words. They hurt us, sometimes forever. They can also build us up and encourage us. In fact, there are several Bible verses about the words that we use.

Proverbs has several, like Proverbs 15:4 “Gentle words bring life...” or Psalm 19: “Let the words of my mouth be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord.” Ephesians chapter 4 “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths but only what is helpful for building others up.” There are many others but it’s clear God wants us to speak in love and grace.

In today’s Gospel story Jesus is again confronting the Pharisees and, at the same time, giving a life lesson for the disciples (which includes us). There was a law (not unlike today perhaps) that said you must wash your hands before you eat, or your food would be defiled. Jesus is teaching it is NOT what goes into your mouth, but what comes out and what comes out comes from the heart the Lord teaches.

Our hearts! Really? Didn’t you think, like me, speech came from a place in our brain? Either way the heart is where words come, and angry heart...well, we’ve all been there. We use words to intentionally tear down just as easily as we can use words to build up. The choice is ours and it is up to us. Jesus knows our hearts.... darkened by sin, we are liars and cheaters and we often speak carelessly.

The good news is that we can go back and apologize, we can seek forgiveness for what we have said and I know we have all been there, done that. Words are like hammering a nail into a fence post. We can pull the nail back out but the hole is still there. If you have a “hole” in your heart today by words said to you in the past, let them go, forgive the speaker and change those words to God’s words.

In The Gospel of John we are introduced to the “Word made flesh!” All of God’s words are summed up in Jesus...who spoke extraordinarily little from the Cross. But went there as God’s sacrifice for us all, and died for us, and then the sign said “Resurrection!” The Lord defeated death and that gives you and I hope we can start anew, we can “re-speak” so to speak!!

English is a very odd language I believe...as a Chaplain I would often, tongue in cheek, tell patients they needed to be patient! Isn't it fascinating these two words look and sound alike and go together? Unlike, perhaps, the "terminal" at the airport or my doctor having a "practice" and don't even get me started on Colonial or Bologna!

I remember seeing signs all around after 9-11 all saying the same message : God Bless America! And one of those signs the letter "D" had dropped off. And friends, I think that's a great message for us today speaking of signs! Let us change our words to offer words of encouragement, hope and love as you and I leave today to "Go_ Bless America!

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Lord, you gather the church to be part of your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside his people, help your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might reject. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have blessed us with the bounty of the earth. Grant your grace to all your creatures, that the earth will flourish. Relieve waters choked by garbage, renew soils stripped of nutrients, and refresh the air all creatures need to live. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You call the nations to be glad and sing for joy. Let your way be known among all the nations of the world, now divided by competing interests, contending alliances, and consumed by enormous worry. Bless us and make your face shine upon all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our villages, cities, and towns, and for those who need your healing (especially). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In you we live and move and have our being. Grant our congregation (name) grace to find our life refreshed in you. Accompany us in the rhythms of late summer. Give us rest and renewal, and strengthen us for mission in your name. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your eternal promises are more than we could ever imagine. As you gather all the saints (especially), join us also with them on the great day of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Joined together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Offering Prayer

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

[You may use Tithe.ly or mail your offering: 6118 Crawfordsville Rd, Speedway IN 46224-3717]

Blessing

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, ✚ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

Postlude

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven



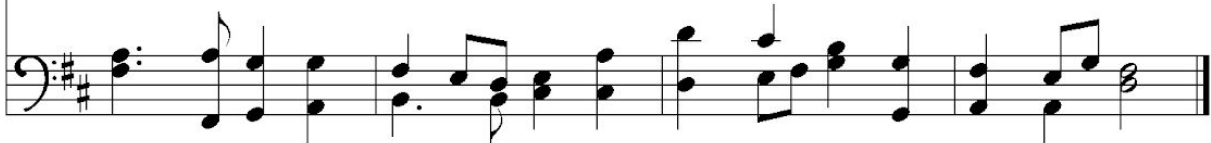
1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en-dures un-chang-ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!



Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927–2005
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

Families on the Prayer List

Mr. & Mrs. John Charlesworth (Patricia)
Ms. Nadine Coles
Dr. Helen Czenkusch
Mr. Alton Dahl

Additional Prayers for Recent, Current, or Upcoming Medical Care:

Vicki Alleman, daughter of Bonnie Parker	David, friend of Ed & Bev Bailey
Christine Claprodt, daughter of Norma Sweeney	Patrick Frepan, friend of the Hills
Fred and Darlene Fairchild, parents of Erin Browning's friend	Jeannie Hermerding
David Tryon, son of Mary	Marlon, brother of Ellen Shupe
John Racek, brother-in-law of Jamie Shake	Denise Hollman
Janet Walsh, friend of Susan Hahn Johnson	Keith Johnson, husband of Susan
Angel Kaulfers, the wife of Rose Jones' coworker	Pat Tumey
Gil Mascher brother of Jeanette Burbrink	Jeanne Wall
Connie Stephens, friend of Suzy and Gary Henschen	Bob Holtman
Martha Helms, niece of Helen Czenkusch	Ellen Shupe

Those with Ongoing Special Need of Prayer:

Jerid Edwards, great nephew of MJ Lynch
Ruth Tingle
Wheeler Elementary School

Remember to Pray for Nursing Home Residents and Shut-Ins:

Lynn Bigelow	Alton Dahl	Thelma Jones	Penny Kalk	Martha Larson
Norma Petraits	David Royer	David Schmalz	The Harrison	

Remember to Pray for those Serving in our Armed Forces:

Michael Joseph
Jerry Shake

A Very Special Prayer Request

This year our partnership with Wheeler Elementary will continue. School resumes on August 5. This is a very scary and difficult time for students, teachers, parents, and staff. We have been asked to please keep them in our prayers as the year begins and progresses through this unknown time.



Calendar

- **Sunday, August 16** Worship 11am
- **Sunday, August 16** Zoom Holy Communion and Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Monday, August 17** Zoom Staff Meeting 10am
- **Thursday, August 20** Zoom Council Meeting
- **Sunday, August 23** Worship 11am
- **Sunday, August 23** Zoom Holy Communion and Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Monday, August 24** Zoom Staff Meeting 10am

Announcements

PRAYER CHAIN

We will soon have a new Prayer Chain manager. Starting September 1 Joyce Yockey will take over this responsibility from Jan Joseph. Joyce's email is: jbasketindy@yahoo.com. Prayer requests that you wish to have on the Prayer Chain should be sent to Joyce starting September 1. Thank you to Jan Joseph for the wonderful job she has done managing the Prayer Chain and prayer requests.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP TIME & COMMUNION

Beginning on Sunday, September 6, worship will begin at 9:00am as part of our shared ministry rotation schedule. We will begin having Communion at the worship service beginning in September, watch for more details to come.

DIGITAL WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

No way to view our worship service via the email that is sent out or via our website? No worries! We have a new option that will be available shortly. We will soon be making DVDs for those who do not have access to the internet. Please reach out to a council member or Kelli Steurer if you have any questions. They will be glad to assist you in making sure you have the proper equipment lined up and give you all of the details.

PRODUCTION TEAM NEEDED

We need YOUR help! Are you able to help record worship services? Are you willing to learn how to use a camcorder? Are you interested in helping learn more about live streaming? We need YOU! Please reach out to Kelli! It is time to grow our team of 1 to many!

LAUNDRY AND FRIENDS

We are looking for someone to help Rose Jones with our Laundry and Friends program the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 4:30 to 5:30. If you can help please call Mary Lee Long.

NEWSLETTER

Please check your email for the August newsletter! If you did not receive it via email, please be sure to subscribe via our website. (Yes, there will be a printed version starting in September.) Please send all items to Kelli by the **15th of the month**. We are in need of news items and resources that you would like to share with members and friends!

FACE MASKS

We have an offer from Jeanette Burbrink to provide masks for our members at no charge, these are hand-made by her stepdaughters in San Diego. Let Jeanette, MJ or Kelli know if you need a mask.

FOOD PANTRY

At this time we are not operating our Food Pantry. The Storehouse Food Pantry is still serving clients and if you wish to support their food ministry send monetary contributions to Speedway Christian Church at 5110 W 14th Street, Speedway In 46224. Make checks payable to Speedway Christian Church and indicate with a note or memo "Speedway Food Pantry."